



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#19/C
JRP
5/9/03

In re application of

Eiko MASATSUJI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/492,763

Confirmation No.: 1343

Filed: January 27, 2000

For: DERMAL AGENT

Docket No: Q54487

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: V. Kim

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ATTN:
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A dermal agent for preventing or treating acne comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo and which reduces skin irritation, represented by the following formula (3):

C1